AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a ~~suction~~ pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, comprising:

a filter ~~means~~ for inputting a flow rate signal outputted from a flow rate detector~~ion means~~ installed within the ~~suction~~ pipe and subjecting the flow rate signal to a filter processing; and

a selector~~ion means~~ for comparing the flow rate signal outputted from the flow rate detector~~ion means~~ and a filter signal outputted from the filter ~~means~~ to select the signal having a higher voltage from the flow rate signal and the filter signal as a new flow rate signal.

2. (currently amended): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 1, wherein the filter ~~means~~ is comprised of a low-pass filter, and the filter processing is a processing for delaying the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

3. (currently amended): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 1, wherein the filter ~~means~~ is comprised of a high-pass filter, and the filter processing is a processing for advancing the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

4. (currently amended): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 1, wherein the filter processing executed by the filter ~~means~~ is a processing for arithmetically operating a value lower than a mean value of the flow rate signal by a predetermined value to output the resultant value.

5. (currently amended): ~~A method in~~In a heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a ~~suction~~ pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, the improvement comprising: ~~a step of~~ comparing a flow rate signal outputted from a flow rate detection means installed within the suction pipe and a filter signal obtained by subjecting the flow rate signal to ~~a~~ filter processing using a previously set filter function, ~~to~~ and selecting the signal having a higher voltage from the flow rate signal and the filter signal as a new flow rate signal.

6. (currently amended): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim [[6]]5, wherein the filter processing is a processing for delaying the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

7. (original): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 5, wherein the filter processing is a processing for advancing the flow rate signal with a predetermined time constant.

8. (original): A heat sensitive flow meter according to claim 5, wherein the filter processing is a processing for arithmetically operating a value lower than a mean value of the flow rate signal by a predetermined value to output the resultant value.

9. (currently amended): [[A]]In a heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a ~~suction~~ pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, the improvement comprising:

~~a judgement step of~~ receiving data on a throttle aperture of the internal combustion engine and data on the number of revolutions of the internal combustion engine, ~~to~~ and judgeing whether or not the throttle aperture is equal to or larger than a set value for the throttle aperture previously set in correspondence to the number of revolutions; and

~~a selection step of,~~ when the throttle aperture is equal to or larger than the set value, judging whether or not a value of a flow rate signal outputted from the flow rate detection means installed within the ~~suction~~ pipe is equal to or smaller than a set value for a flow rate signal previously set, and ~~to~~ selecting the set value as a new flow rate signal when the value of the flow rate signal is equal to or smaller than the set value.

10. (currently amended): ~~A~~ In a heat sensitive flow meter for measuring a flow rate of a fluid passing through a ~~suction~~ pipe provided in an internal combustion engine, the improvement comprising:

~~a judgement step of~~ receiving data on a ~~suction~~ pressure within the ~~suction~~ pipe and data on the number of revolutions of the internal combustion engine to judge whether or not the ~~suction~~ pressure is equal to or larger than a set value for the ~~suction~~ pressure previously set in correspondence to the number of revolutions; and

~~a selection step of,~~ when the ~~suction~~ pressure is equal to or larger than the set value, judging whether or not a value of a flow rate signal outputted from a flow rate detection means installed within the ~~suction~~ pipe is equal to or smaller than a set value for the flow rate signal previously set, and ~~to~~ selecting the set value as a new flow rate signal when the value of the flow rate signal is equal to or smaller than the set value.

11. (currently amended): A fuel controller for carrying out fuel ~~controller~~ control using the heat sensitive flow meter as claimed in claim 1.